

***WEBINAR: Why Make Changes/Improvements to Residential?***

**Date/Time:** August 2, 2016, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. EDT

**Intended Audience:** South Carolina residential leaders, state agency leaders and field staff; youth and family advocates

**Overview of Webinar:** The South Carolina Building Bridges Initiative (BBI) Webinar for South Carolina residential and state agency leaders is the first of several webinars and other technical assistance activities that BBI will provide for South Carolina leaders. The first webinar features CEO's from two residential programs that have made significant steps in transforming their residential programs from using traditional approaches to using practices that correlate to sustained positive outcomes post-discharge from residential for youth and their family members. The presenters will share both why they started their transformational journeys and key steps they took to move forward. The presenters were chosen because they both took their first transformational steps without any additional external funding, although you will hear about their requests for additional monies from their funding agencies and how Youth Development Institute (YDI) used outcome data to convince their funding agency for a small fiscal increase. YDI has been on their journey for more than five years; St. Mary's Home has just begun their journey.

Participants will:

- 1) increase and/or renew their understanding regarding what the Building Bridges Initiative is and how to access information about the initiative.
- 2) increase their understanding about why residential leaders from Rhode Island and Arizona began to transform their residential programs, implementing practices consistent with family-driven and youth-guided and trauma-informed care.
- 3) increase their understanding about key steps that residential leaders from Rhode Island and Arizona took in order to transform their residential programs from a primary focus on youth getting better in care to a primary focus on improving sustained positive outcomes post residential discharge for both youth and families.
- 4) have an opportunity to ask questions and discuss challenges they have concerns about with the residential leaders.
- 5) leave the webinar with renewed enthusiasm for improving their focus on family-driven/youth-guided practices, as well as enthusiasm for improving focus on sustained positive outcomes post discharge.

## Presenters:

**Sherri Adair Hammack**, National Coordinator, Building Bridges Initiative/[svhammack@sbcglobal.net](mailto:svhammack@sbcglobal.net)

Sherri Adair Hammack is a native born Texan. Ms. Hammack is married and has three adult children that includes a set of twins. Ms. Hammack earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Texas Woman's University and a teacher's secondary education certification at Texas State University. She has more than 37 years of experience in health and human services at the federal, state and community level especially in the area of systems transformation. She currently serves as the National Coordinator for the Building Bridges Initiative. Ms. Hammack previously served as the state lead for a collaborative statewide children's mental health initiative known as the *Texas System of Care initiative*, using the 'system of care' framework that is supported by federal partners at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). She has served as a public servant at the state level in various positions promoting collaborative statewide practices in Texas. She has facilitated the establishment of mental health center of excellence at a state university and the initial implementation of the Medicaid 1915c Youth Empowerment Services (YES) waiver. Ms. Hammack has served as Principal Investigator for several federal grants focused on children's behavioral health and trauma-informed care and treatment. Prior to her experience at the state level, she established a community-based human resources development department for a fourteen county service area and also functioned in various facility-based direct care service roles. Mrs. Hammack has dedicated her career to improving collaborative service delivery for children and youth with complex needs and their families.

**Carlene Casciano-McCann**, Executive Director, St. Mary's Home for Children, Rhode Island/  
[cmccann@smhfc.org](mailto:cmccann@smhfc.org)

Carlene Casciano-McCann has been the Executive Director of St. Mary's Home for Children since 2008. She holds a Bachelor's degree from Stonehill College and Master's and Certificate of Graduate Studies degrees from Rhode Island College. St. Mary's Home for Children provides residential, acute residential and emergency shelter services, specialized outpatient, home and community-based services and a special education program. Recognizing the need for an approach based on dignity, meaning and youth and family voice and choice, Carlene has focused on improving all facets of service delivery in order to provide trauma-informed services to the youth and families served by St. Mary's Home for Children. This has resulted in a significant decrease in the use of physical management, increased family engagement and youth voice. St. Mary's has partnered with a Parent Partner organization (Parent Support Network) to bring the Building Bridges Initiative to fruition. Carlene resides in Greenville, RI with her husband, Tim and daughter, Lindsay.

**Lisa Conlan**, National Family Leader, Rhode Island/[l.conlan@psnri.org](mailto:l.conlan@psnri.org)

Lisa Conlan is a National Family Leader in consulting with systems of care, wraparound, peer support programs, and family organizations. Lisa started on her path as a family leader in the state of Rhode Island. Lisa has helped to raise five children and is now a grandmother of two. Lisa became involved in children's mental health as a parent advocating to meet her own child and family's needs. Lisa's expertise includes her years of experience working as an Executive Director of the Parent Support Network of Rhode Island, a statewide family organization and leading system of care efforts in Rhode Island at a policy, management, and practice level. Lisa served on staff for seven years with the National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health providing training and technical assistance to the field of children's mental health, the interacting child serving systems and families. Lisa has worked extensively with the system of care communities and statewide family network grants funded by CMHS, SAMHSA providing training and technical assistance in the areas of policy, partnership, fiscal management, contracts, program development and implementation. Lisa is a member of the National Wraparound Initiative and has expertise in training, certifying, and supervising Family Support Partners in wraparound. Lisa works in partnership with the Human Service Collaborative, National Training.

**David Cocoros, MS, Co-Executive Director, Youth Development Institute (YDI), Arizona/  
[David.Cocoros@YDI.org](mailto:David.Cocoros@YDI.org)**

David Cocoros is Co-Executive Director and Co-Founder of Youth Development Institute, a non-profit, Joint Commission Accredited organization providing residential and outpatient behavioral health services for youth. David, together with his wife, Trish, founded YDI in October of 1996. In June of 1997, YDI opened a 14-bed residential treatment unit in leased space and has since grown to a 132-bed continuum of care located on a 9-acre campus in central Phoenix. David began his lifelong work with youth in 1969 at the Austin State Hospital Children's Psychiatric Unit and was a co-founder of the Texas Youth and Child Care Worker Association in 1973. David continued working with youth in the field of juvenile corrections, first in Texas with the Texas Youth Commission, leaving public service in 1994 after his two year term as the Deputy Director of the Department of Youth Treatment and Rehabilitation for the State of Arizona. A transformational and visionary leader, David has always been a change agent in systems of care for youth. At YDI, David has built a culture of leadership and learning, always striving for excellence. David earned his Master of Science in Criminal Justice Management at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas in 1987. David and Trish have been married for 40 years, have two children and three grandchildren.

**Trish Cocoros, BS, Co-Executive Director, Youth Development Institute (YDI), Arizona/  
[Trish.Cocoros@YDI.org](mailto:Trish.Cocoros@YDI.org)**

Trish Cocoros is Co-Executive Director and Co-Founder of Youth Development Institute (YDI), a non-profit, Joint Commission Accredited organization providing residential and outpatient behavioral health services for youth. Trish, together with her husband, David, founded YDI in October of 1996. In June of 1997, YDI opened a 14-bed residential treatment unit in leased space and has since grown to a 132-bed continuum of care located on a 9-acre campus in central Phoenix. Trish has been the driving force behind YDI's reduction in seclusion and restraint and the implementation of trauma-informed care and Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT). Trish began her work with youth in residential treatment in 1970 and considers working directly with youth as the best part of her job. David and Trish have been married for 40 years, and have two children and three grandchildren.

**Funding for this training provided by a grant from:**

